

## VV STUDY NOTES: 7th SEPTEMBER 2024

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### 1 Samuel 30: 1-31 (David avenges the destruction of Ziklag)

There's an old proverb: "When the cats away, the mice will play"

Warfare is often driven by opportunism. The Amalekites would have realized that there was a major battle to be fought between the Israel and the Philistines. That meant that cities in both those communities would be without most of their fighting men.

v.2 'They killed none of them'.

**## What patterns of behaviour have we already observed in our study to date when cities are being destroyed.**

**What range of motivations could be behind these patterns.?**

v. 3-8 *Mixed reactions*

**## Are you surprised by the varying responses in this passage, and in particular the statement 'David was distressed because the men were talking of stoning him'?**

**## Imagine yourself caught up in this situation and ask the question: 'how would I have reacted'?**

**## What are typical responses to these sorts of situations in our age?**

**## What does this passage tell us about the qualities of GOOD LEADERSHIP?**

v. 9-10 *On rode the 600*

**## What do we know about the Six hundred men who were David's followers that might account for some of them being 'too exhausted'? What advantages did this situation create?**

v. 11-16 *The Egyptian*

**## This passage conjures up all sorts of Questions.**

**## Make your own list of these, and bring them to the discussion?**

**## What does it tell us about the characters involved in the story?**

**## What does it tell us about the extent of this Amalekite campaign?**

v. 17-20 *The battle*

David and his men took the Amalekites by surprise. They were celebrating and feasting, probably drunk. A surprise attack would have been devastating. They were obviously in total disarray and were slaughtered.

**## How significant is the comment about the 400 young men?**

v. 21-25 *The consolidation*

**## Does it surprise you that the story so candidly reports that some of David's followers were "evil men and troublemakers"?**

**## What does this story tell us about the qualities of David's leadership?**

v. 22-31 *Sharing the bounty*

**## Was this act of sharing and acknowledgement as a key part of the future?**

**## What does this whole passage tell us about David's readiness for KINGSHIP?**